

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a writing device configured to write and form an image on a surface of an image

~~forming apparatus~~ bearing member;

a developing device configured to develop the image formed on the surface of the  
image bearing member; ~~and~~

an upper duct provided on and a lower duct provided beneath a housing of the writing  
device to form an outside-air flowing path; and

a single air intake fan configured to take outside-air into the upper duct and the lower  
duct.

Claim 2 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an  
opening is provided to the lower duct such that the opening is covered by the housing.

Claim 3 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an  
open upper side of the housing is covered by a scanner frame of an original document reading  
device, and wherein the upper duct is provided in the scanner frame.

Claim 4 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein an  
opening is provided to the upper duct and is covered by the scanner frame.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a fan is provided to ~~an outside-air intake inlet~~ and an air discharge outlet of at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct.

Claim 7 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein scanning optical components formed of a plastic are used in the writing device.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~an~~ outside-air that ~~flowed~~ flows through at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct is used to cool components other than the writing device.

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cont.  
Claim 9 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~an~~ outside-air that ~~flowed~~ flows through at least one of ~~or both of~~ the upper duct and the lower ducts duct is used to remove ozone produced in the image forming apparatus.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
means for writing and forming an image on a surface of an image ~~forming apparatus~~  
bearing member;

means for developing the image formed on the surface of the image bearing member;  
and

an upper duct provided above and a lower duct provided beneath a housing of the writing means to form an outside-air flowing path; and

means for taking outside-air into the upper duct and the lower duct.

Claim 11 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein an opening is provided to the lower duct such that the opening is covered by the housing.

Claim 12 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein an open upper side of the housing is covered by a scanner frame of an original document reading device, and wherein the upper duct is provided in the scanner frame.

Claim 13 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 12, wherein an opening is provided to the upper duct, and the opening is covered by the scanner frame.

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cont .  
Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a fan is provided to ~~an outside air intake inlet and a~~ an air discharge outlet ~~to~~ of at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct.

Claim 16 (original): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein scanning optical components formed of a plastic are used in the writing means.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein outside-air that flows through at least one of the upper duct and the lower duct is used to cool components other than the writing means.

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Cnd · Claim 18 (currently amended): The image forming apparatus according to claim 10,  
wherein outside-air that flows through at least one of the upper duct and the lower ~~duets~~ duct  
is used to remove ozone produced in the image forming apparatus.

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